

4. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

5. (Original) The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

6. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

7. (Original) The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

8. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9. (Original) The compound of claim 8, wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

11. (Previously amended) A compound of 8 to 50 nucleobases in length which specifically hybridizes with at least an 8-nucleobase portion of an active site on a nucleic acid molecule encoding human hormone-sensitive lipase (SEQ ID NO: 3). *B1*

12. (Amended) A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 or claim 76 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

15. (Amended) A method of inhibiting the expression of hormone-sensitive lipase in

cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues with an amount of the compound of claim 1 or claim 76 [so that] sufficient to inhibit expression of hormone-sensitive lipase[is inhibited].

16-70. (Withdrawn)

71. (Amended) The compound of claim 1 or claim 76, wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with and inhibits the expression of a nucleic acid molecule encoding an alternatively spliced form of hormone-sensitive lipase.

72. (New) The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound inhibits the expression of the nucleic acid molecule encoding human hormone-sensitive lipase by at least 15% in 80% confluent HepG2 cells in culture at an optimal compound concentration.

73. (New) The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound inhibits the expression of the nucleic acid molecule encoding human hormone-sensitive lipase by at least 40% in 80% confluent HepG2 cells in culture at an optimal compound concentration.

74. (New) The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound inhibits the expression of the nucleic acid molecule encoding human hormone-sensitive lipase by at least 50% in 80% confluent HepG2 cells in culture at an optimal compound concentration.

75. (New) The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound inhibits the expression of the nucleic acid molecule encoding human hormone-sensitive lipase by at least 60% in 80% confluent HepG2 cells in culture at an optimal compound concentration.

76. (New) An oligonucleotide mimetic compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding human hormone-sensitive lipase (SEQ ID NO: 3), wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with and inhibits the expression of the nucleic acid molecule encoding human hormone-sensitive lipase.

77. (New) The compound of claim 76 wherein the oligonucleotide mimetic compound comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.